12 Feb 04

Addendum #1

RFP# B03355

Title: Commercial and Industrial Equipment and Supplies

Submission Deadline: 26 Feb 04 @ 2:00 PM

- E-mailed vendor questions, and the State's responses, are posted for review.

Jerome D. Moynihan, C.P.M., CPPO
Administrator of Purchasing Systems

Questions & Responses for RFP # B03355 (Commercial & Industrial Equipment & Supplies)

1. Given the scope of the RFP and the fact that some suppliers may be responding to both (RFP #B03355 and #B03356), would you consider staggering the due dates to allow for thorough response?

The State considered this issue when setting the original due dates, which is why vendors have been allotted a full 30 days to provide thorough responses to both RFPs.

2. Will the State be making multiple awards to suppliers within any and all categories or will this be a "sole source" award?

Based on Rhode Island's evaluation of vendor proposals, Rhode Island may elect to award all products covered in this RFP to a single vendor, award each category to separate vendors, or award multiple vendors in each category. Although it is the State's general intent to award a single contract pursuant to this offer, the State will award multiple contracts if it is in the best interest of the State.

3. Looking at the scope of this proposal, Feb 26th is an aggressive date. Can a date extension of 15-30 days be granted?

Please see response to Question 1. No extensions are planned.

4. Is this an official RFP which will have a single award?

This is an official RFP; see the response to Question 2 regarding a single award.

5. How will you assign points from lowest to highest bidder? (ex: Price is worth 55 pts – how will points be divided up between first, second, third, etc)

Bidders will be scored on a pro-rated basis based on the lowest price bid for each item. Points are assigned to each bidder out of a possible 100 points (see scoring table in RFP)

6. Will the lamp/ballast portion of this RFP replace the existing Lamp/Ballast Master Price Agreement (#68M00211473)?

The current Lamp/Ballast Master Price Agreement expires on 6/30/04 with (2) options to renew for (2) additional years. The State's option to renew the existing contract will be based on the vendor's proposal to this solicitation.

7. What is the difference between requests for proposal v. invitation to bid? (clearly stated on p. 3 that it is a request for proposal, NOT an invitation to bid)

A Request for Proposal is being utilized in accordance with the State of Rhode Island Procurement Regulations as pricing, service, quality and other factors will be used in determining award.

8. Will they be giving multiple awards to the same Product Category?

Please see response to Question 2.

9. Page 5, section E2 – please explain this statement. (negotiations after proposals are turned in? – what is being negotiated, price, product?)

Per section 6.3.2.3 of the State of Rhode Island Procurement Regulations, the State reserves the right to negotiate with the top three (3) vendors regarding any and all aspects of the bidder's response. The top three vendors will be determined based on the scoring process indicated in section E.1 of the Overview of RFP Process in the RFP.

10. If we fail to quote an item in a category are we disqualified (i.e. Are we required to quote ALL items in a product category?)

No. Bidders may bid on any or all products within each product category.

11. What advantages are there for a WBE/MBE/DBE? If so, what are they?

Per section 37-14.1 of the State of Rhode Island General Law, The State's goal is for 10% of all contract awards to go to minority vendors; this will not be weighed into the scoring for this RFP. For more information, please contact the MBE Administrator, at (401) 222-6253 or visit the website http://www.rimbe.org.

12. Is there a percentage of the bid set aside for WBE/MBE/DBE?

No. Please see response to Question 11 for more details.

END